

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 17-30, as follows, and add new claims 31-36, as follows:

Claims 1-16 (canceled).

17. (currently amended): An apparatus for blocking and releasing a door lock of an electrical appliance, comprising:

- a blocking and release unit (12) having a blocking state for blocking a locked door lock (2) of an electrical appliance and a release state for enabling unlocking of the door lock (2) and comprising an actuator (16), which effects, upon activation, a crossover from the release state to the blocking state if the blocking and release unit (12) is in the release state and a crossover from the blocking state to the release state if the blocking and release unit (12) is in the blocking state, and

- an emergency release unit (14) have an idle state and a working state and comprising an actuator (50), which ~~maintains effects~~, in response to ~~or in view~~ of the crossover of the blocking and release unit (12) into the blocking state, ~~the emergency release unit (14) in the idle state~~ a crossover from the idle state into the working state and allows, in an abnormal operating state of the electrical appliance, a crossover ~~of the emergency release unit (14)~~ from the working state into the idle state, wherein the emergency release unit (14) in the event of the crossover from the working state into the idle state brings the blocking and release unit (12) into the release state.

18. (currently amended): Apparatus according to claim 17, ~~characterized in that:~~
wherein the actuator (50) of the emergency release unit (14) is adapted for effecting a
effects the crossover from the idle state into the working state.

19. (currently amended): Apparatus according to claim 17, ~~characterized in~~
~~that:~~ wherein the emergency release unit (14) comprises a force-generating element (46)
for effecting the crossover from the working state into the idle state.

20. (currently amended): An apparatus for blocking and releasing a door lock of
an electrical appliance, comprising:

- a blocking and release unit (12) having a blocking state for blocking a locked door lock
(2) of an electrical appliance and a release state for enabling unlocking of the door lock
(2) and comprising an actuator (16), which effects, upon activation, a crossover from the
release state to the blocking state if the blocking and release unit (12) is in the release
state and crossover from the blocking state to the release state if the blocking and release
unit (12) is in the blocking state, and
- an emergency release unit (14) having an idle state and a working state and comprising
a force-generating element (50), which ~~maintains effects~~, in response to ~~or in view of~~ the
crossover of the blocking and release unit (12) into the blocking state, ~~the emergency~~
~~release unit (14) in the idle state,~~ a crossover from the idle state into the working state and
an actuator (50), which effects, in an abnormal operating state of the electrical appliance,
a crossover ~~of the emergency release unit (14)~~ from the working state into the idle state,
wherein the emergency release unit (14) in the event of the crossover from the working
state into the idle state brings the blocking and release unit (12) into the release state.

21. (currently amended): Apparatus according to claim 20, ~~characterized in that:~~
wherein the emergency release unit (14) comprises an energy supply device for the
actuator (50) of emergency release unit (14), which device is designed to supply energy
to the actuator (50) of emergency release unit (14) for activating the latter in the event of
abnormal operation of the electrical appliance.

22. (currently amended): Apparatus according to claim 17 or 20, ~~characterized in~~
~~that:~~ wherein the force-generating element (46) is a spring.

23. (currently amended): Apparatus according to claim 17 or 20, ~~characterized in~~
~~that:~~ wherein the blocking and release unit (12) assumes the blocking state by means of a
working connection to the door lock (2) in response to the locking of the latter.

24. (currently amended): Apparatus according to claim 17 or 20, ~~characterized in~~
~~that:~~ wherein the blocking and release unit (12) in a locked state of the door lock (2)
assumes the blocking state in a controlled manner.

25. (currently amended): Apparatus according to claim 17 or 20, ~~characterized in~~
~~that:~~ wherein the blocking and release unit (12) assumes the release state in an operating
state of the electrical appliance, for which an unlocking of the door lock (2) is desirable
and/or permissible.

26. (currently amended): Apparatus according to claim 17 or 20, ~~characterized in~~
~~that:~~ wherein the emergency release unit (14) assumes the working state by means of a
working connection to the blocking and release unit (12) in response to the crossover of
the latter into the blocking state.

27. (currently amended): Apparatus according to claim 17 or 20, ~~characterized in~~
~~that:~~ wherein the emergency release unit (14) assumes the working state in a controlled

manner when the blocking and release unit (12) is situated in the blocking state or before the blocking and release unit (12) assumes the blocking state.

28. (currently amended): Apparatus according to claim 17 or 20, ~~characterized in that:~~ wherein during normal operation of the electrical appliance the emergency release unit (14) assumes the idle state in response to the crossover of the blocking and release unit (12) from the blocking state into the release state.

29. (currently amended): Apparatus according to claim 17 or 20, ~~characterized in that:~~ wherein the actuator (50) of the emergency release unit (14) is a heat-sensitive element, a thermoelement or a wax motor.

30. (currently amended): Apparatus according to claim 17 or 20, ~~characterized by:~~ further comprising a release device for the emergency release unit (14), which device in dependence upon parameters characterizing an abnormal operating state of the electrical appliance allows a crossover of the emergency release unit (14) into an idle state.

31. (new): Apparatus according to claim 17 or 20, further comprising a connecting link guide.

32. (new): Apparatus according to claim 17 or 20, further comprising a connecting link guide, wherein the emergency release unit comprises an actuating element engaging the connecting link guide.

33. (new): Apparatus according to claim 17 or 20, further comprising a connecting link guide, wherein the emergency release unit comprises an actuating element engaging the connecting link guide and the blocking and release unit comprises a blocking and release element, the actuating element engaging the blocking and release element during the crossover from the working state into the idle state.

34. (new): Apparatus according to claim 17 or 20, further comprising a connecting link guide, wherein the emergency release unit comprises a detent pawl engaging the connecting link guide in the working state and releasing the connecting link guide in the idle state.

35. (new): Apparatus according to claim 17 or 20, further comprising a connecting link guide, wherein the blocking and release unit comprises a locking slide and the connecting link guide is arranged on the locking slide.

36. (new): Apparatus according to claim 17 or 20, further comprising a connecting link guide, wherein the blocking and release unit comprises a locking slide, the connecting link guide is arranged on the locking slide and the emergency release unit comprises a detent pawl engaging the connecting link guide in the working state and releasing the locking slide in the idle state.